



North Carolina's Executive Committee for Highway Safety

North Carolina
Department of Transportation



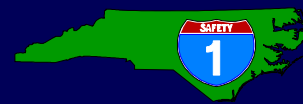
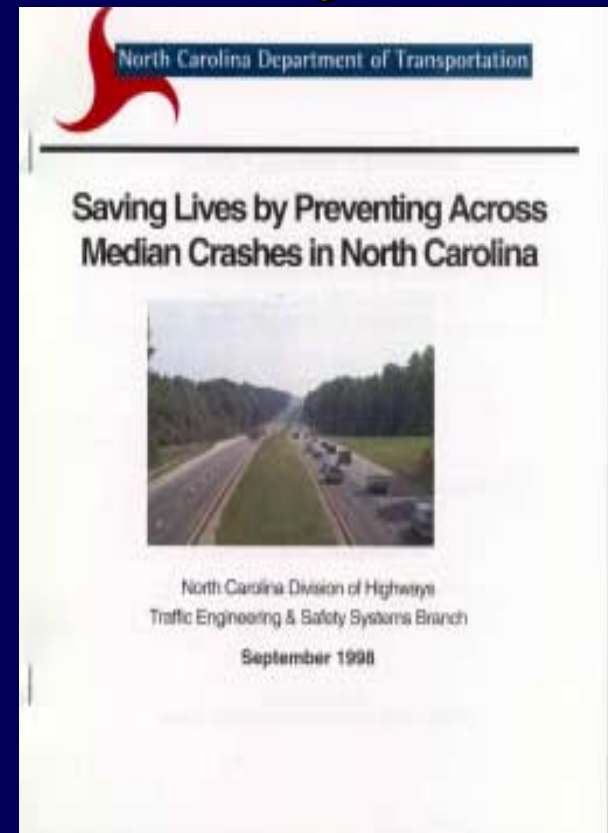
North Carolina is a Leader in Highway Safety



North Carolina Highway Safety Initiatives

■ Median Barrier

- Programmed approximately 1,000 miles through 2003
- Installed over 700 miles to date
- Saving lives by preventing Across Median Crashes



North Carolina Highway Safety Initiatives

■ Sealed Corridor Initiative

- Washington, DC-Raleigh-Charlotte rail corridor identified as one of five nationally designated future high-speed rail corridors
- In essence, we are "sealing" the corridor by protecting every public crossing with
 - video monitoring
 - median separators,
 - longer gate arms,
 - four-quadrant gates
 - innovative signage



North Carolina Highway Safety Initiatives

■ Click It or Ticket

- Increased Seat Belt Usage to nearly 85%
- Since inception in 1993, reduced fatalities and serious injuries by 14%



■ Booze It & Lose It

- Campaign targeting drunken drivers
- 22% decrease in alcohol related fatalities



North Carolina Highway Safety Initiatives

Many of North Carolina Department of Transportation's safety programs serve as models for the rest of the Nation

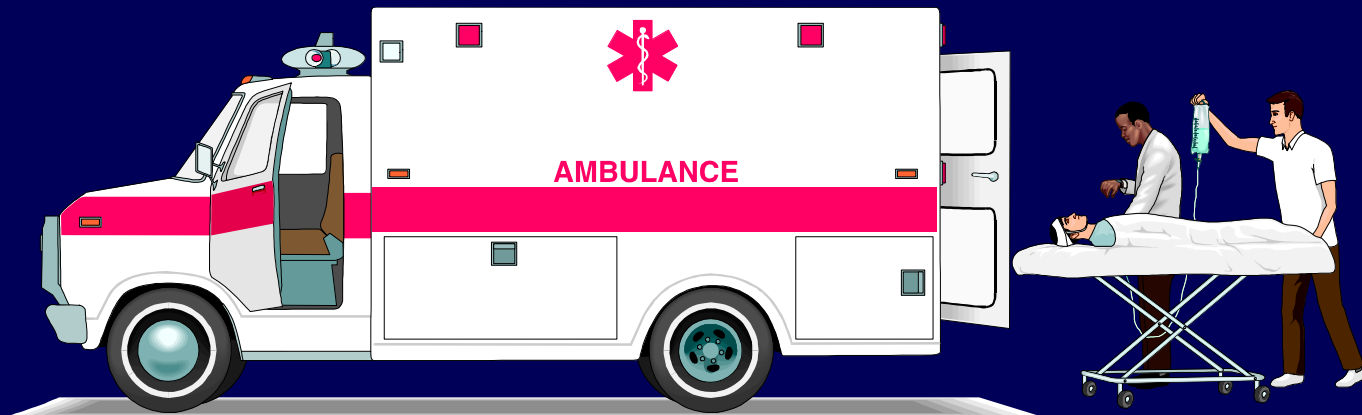


However.....

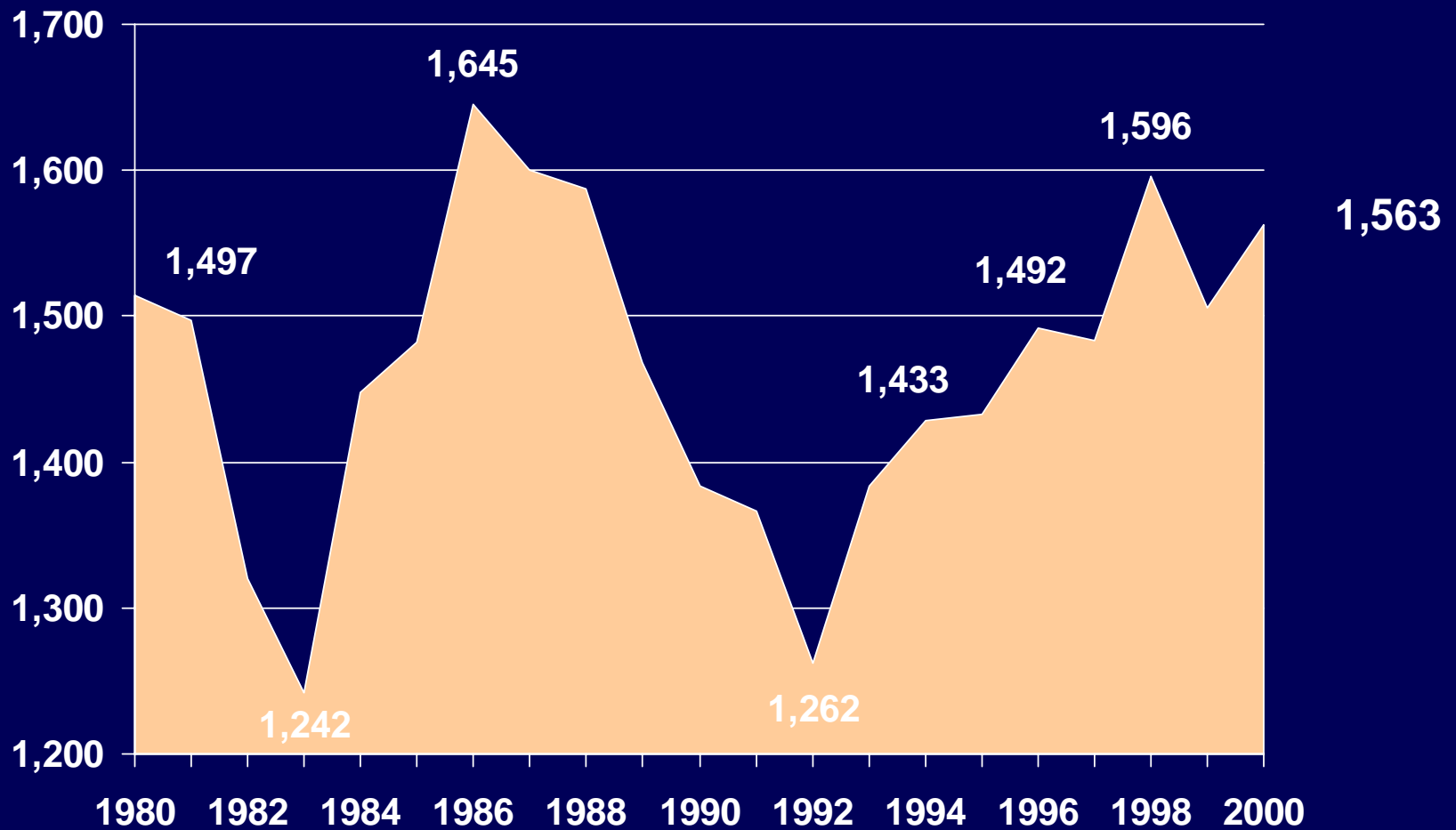


North Carolina Crash Picture

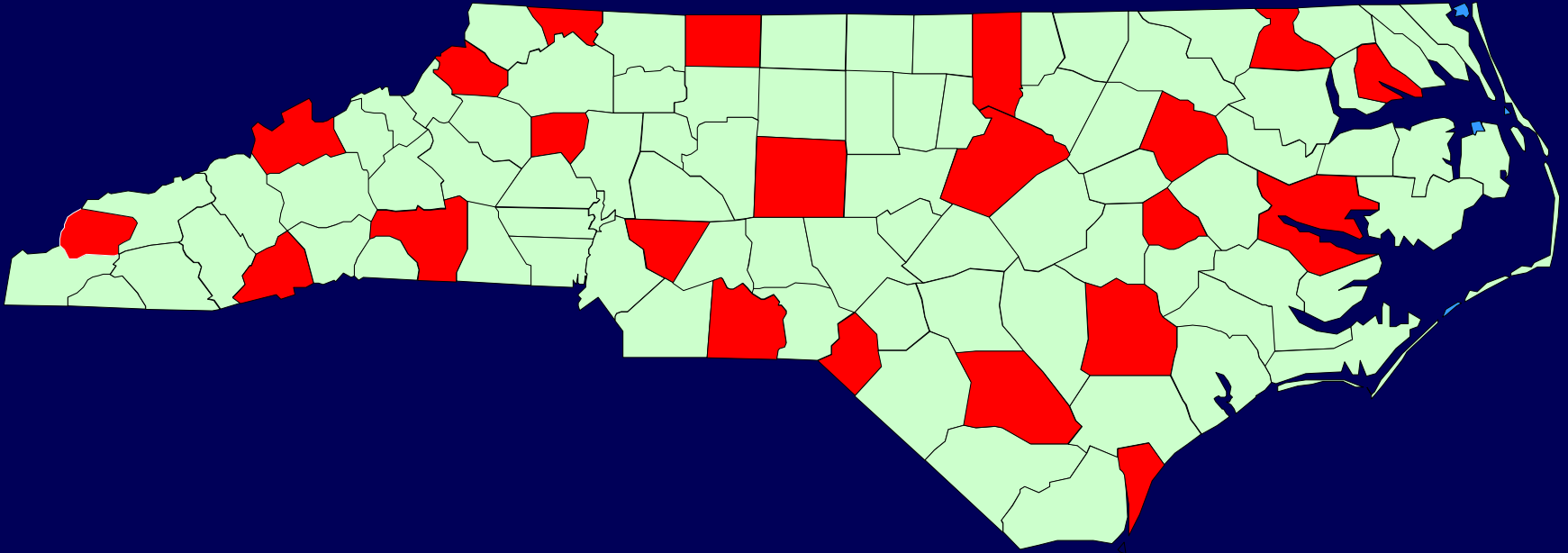
- In 2002
 - Over 221,904 reported traffic crashes
 - Resulted in 1,573 fatalities
 - Over 133,216 injuries



N. C. Total Fatalities



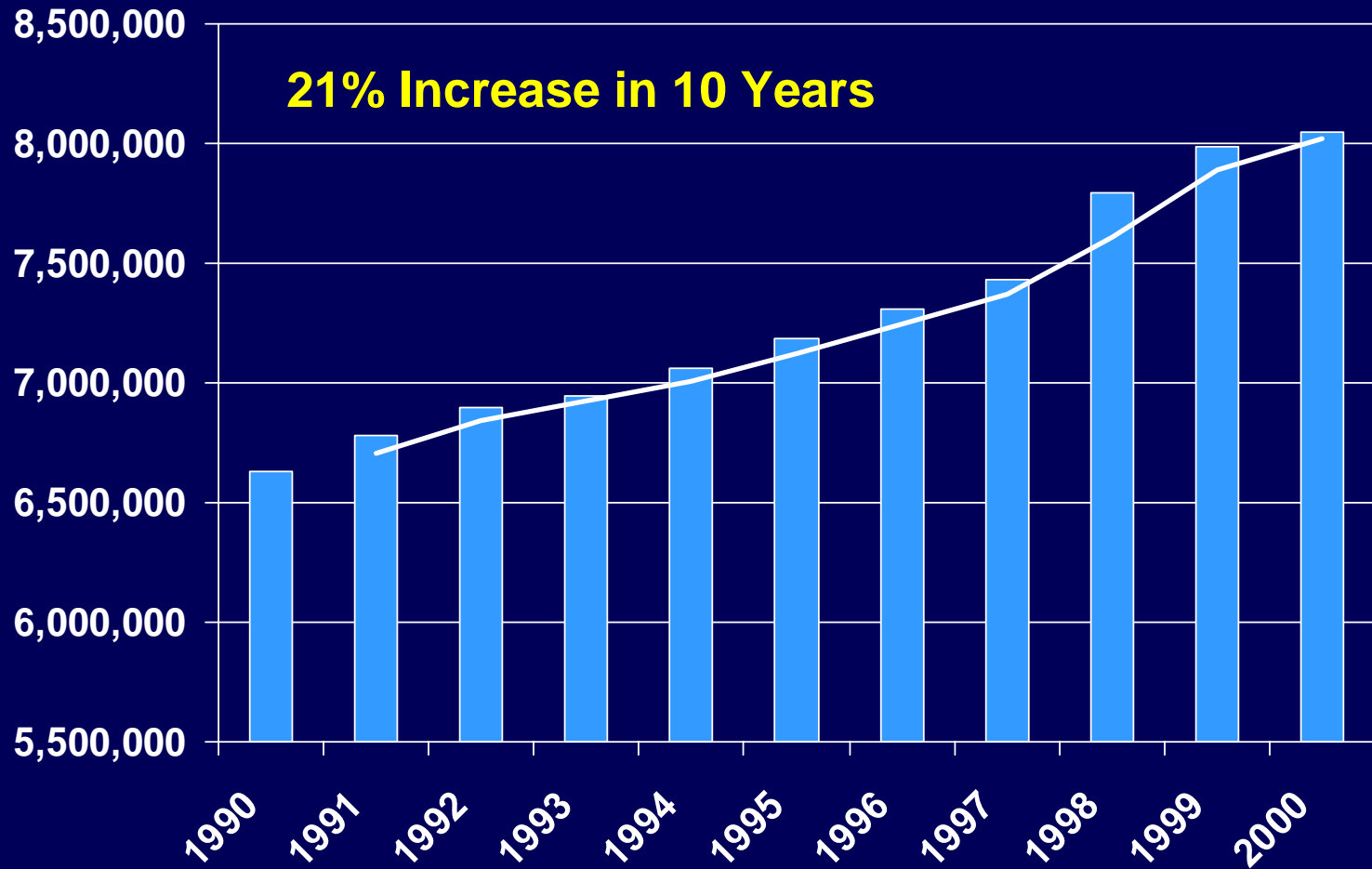
N.C. Trend



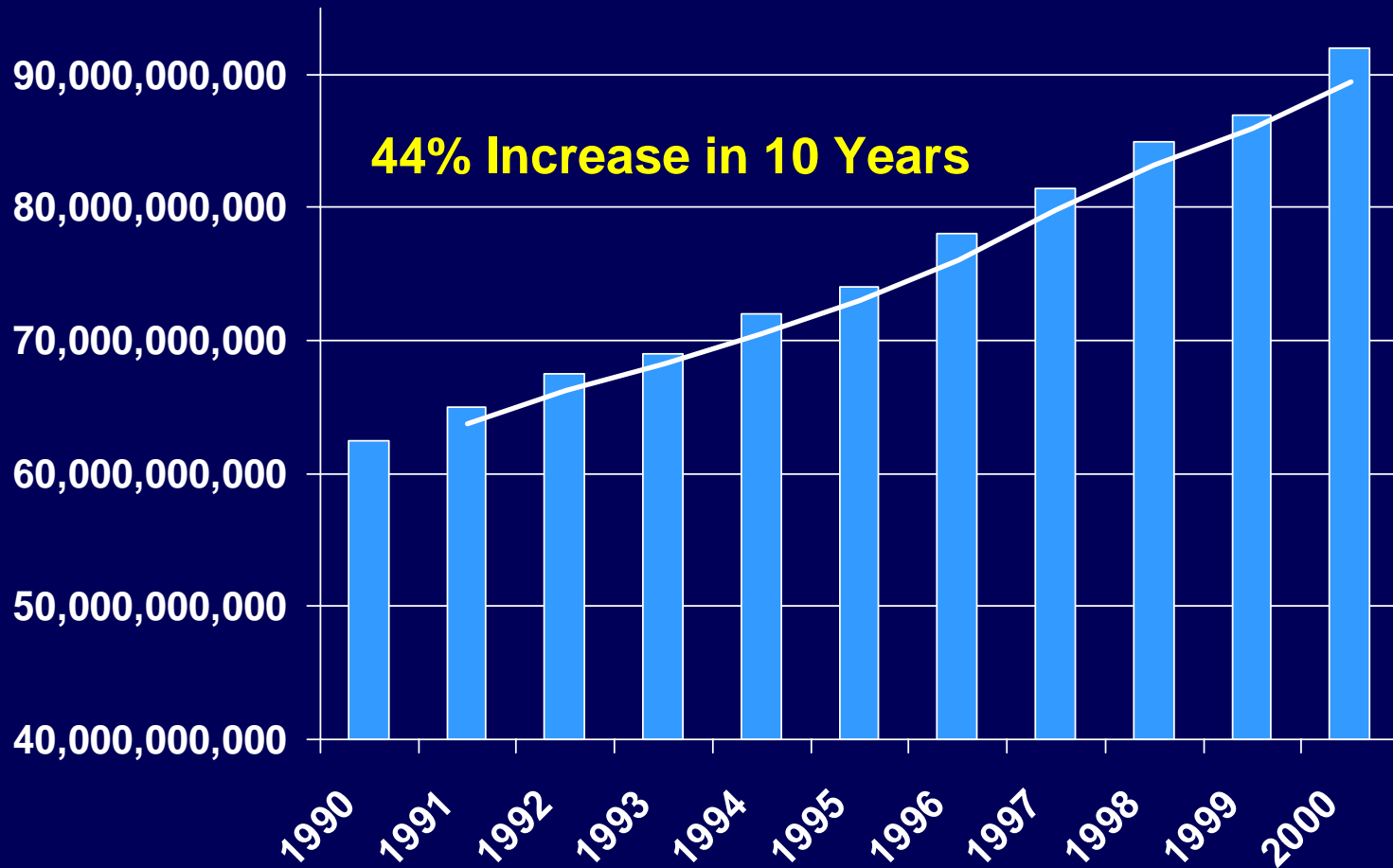
If current trends continue over the next ten (10) years, the number of motorist on North Carolina Highways that will be killed or injured in a motor vehicle crash will be equivalent to every man, woman and child in the **22** counties indicated in red on the above map.



N.C. Population Growth



N.C. Vehicle Miles Traveled



The Need for an Executive Committee for Highway Safety



What is the ECHS?

- A Coordinated, multi-agency approach to identifying and addressing Highway Safety issues



Why Have an Executive Committee for Highway Safety

- IT'S THE RIGHT THING TO DO!
- IT IS NEEDED
- The number of crashes, injuries and fatalities on our highways continues to increase
- Vehicle miles traveled are greatly exceeding lane mile growth, facility capacity and maintenance capabilities



Why Have an Executive Committee for Highway Safety

- Highway safety for the traveling public, our highway workers, emergency responders and law enforcement personnel is a **top** priority for NCDOT and other agencies
- Coordinate all highway safety efforts and initiatives to maximize potential benefits from limited resources



North Carolina's Executive Committee for Highway Safety



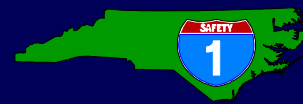
North Carolina's Executive Committee for Highway Safety

■ Mission Statement

- Establish highway safety goals and objectives and prioritize, implement and evaluate coordinated, multi-disciplinary policies and programs to reduce fatalities, injuries and economic losses related to crashes.

■ Vision Statement

- North Carolina has a multi-disciplinary, multi-agency approach to research, planning, design, construction, maintenance, operation and evaluation of transportation systems, which results in reduced fatalities, injuries and economic losses, related to crashes. In addition, there is a coordinated effort to address emerging safety issues.



Executive Committee for Highway Safety Members

David King (Chair)

NCDOT - Deputy Secretary, Transit

Bob Andrews, Jr., CSP

NCDOT - Director Safety & Loss Control

Ken Bumgarner

Jacksonville Police Department - Chief of Police

John Crone

Mooresville Police Department - Chief of Police

J. Douglas Galyon

NCDOT - Chairman, Board of Transportation

Vacant

NC State Highway Patrol

Calvin Leggett, P.E.

NCDOT - Manager Program Development Branch

Ashley Memory

NCDOT - Acting Director, Public information

Drexdal Pratt

Director - Emergency Medical Services

Len Sanderson, P.E.

NCDOT - State Highway Administrator

George Tatum

NCDOT - Division of Motor Vehicles Commissioner

Jim Westmoreland

Director - Greensboro DOT

Susan Coward (Vice-chair)

NCDOT - Deputy Secretary, Intergovernmental Affairs

Debbie Barbour

NCDOT - Director, Preconstruction

Peg Dorer

NC Conference of District Attorneys - Director

Dr. Herb Garrison III, MD

East Carolina Injury Prevention Program - Director

Darrell Jernigan

NCDOT - Governor's Highway Safety Program

Vacant

NCDOT - Traffic Safety Systems Engineer

Jim Long

Commissioner of Insurance

Kevin Lacy, P.E., CPM

NCDOT - State Traffic Engineer

Doug Robertson, Ph.D., P.E.

UNC Highway Safety Research Center

John Sullivan

FHWA - Division Administrator

Steve Varnedoe, P.E.

NCDOT - Chief Engineer; Operations



North Carolina Strategic Highway Safety Plan



AASHTO Strategic Highway Safety Plan



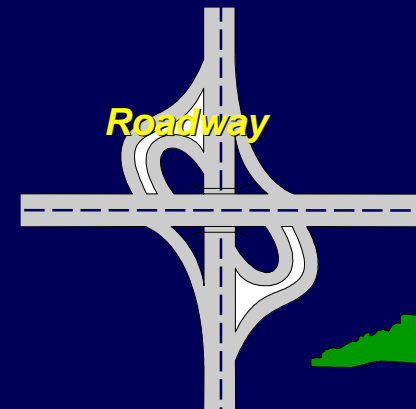
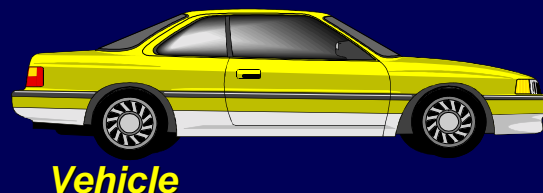
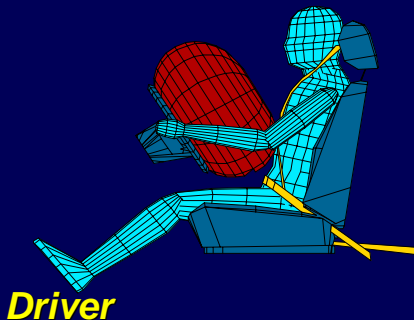
**A Comprehensive Plan to
Substantially Reduce
Vehicle-Related Fatalities and
Injuries on the Nation's Highways**



AASHTO

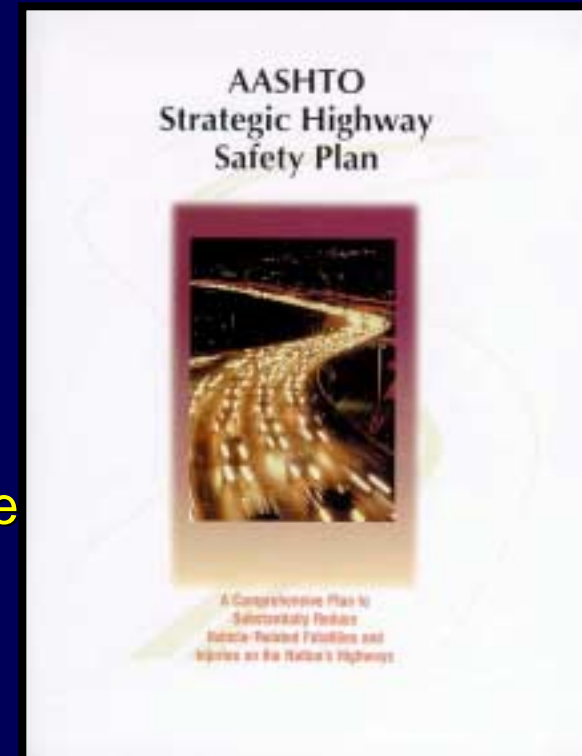
Strategic Highway Safety Plan

- In 1997 the AASHTO Standing Committee for Highway Traffic Safety along with the FHWA and NHTSA assembled a group of experts in *driver*, *vehicle* and *highway* issues
 - Purpose of group was to develop a strategic plan that would positively impact the nation's present and predicted statistics on vehicle related deaths and injuries
 - The end result was the *AASHTO Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP)*



AASHTO Strategic Highway Safety Plan

- Plan focuses on 22 key emphasis areas
 - Emphasis areas divided into six major categories
 - Drivers
 - Special Users
 - Vehicles
 - Highways
 - Emergency Medical Services
 - Management
 - Contains strategies designed to improve each area's major problem areas or to advance practices by means that are both cost-effective and acceptable to a significant majority of Americans



AASHTO

Strategic Highway Safety Plan

Key Emphasis Areas

Part 1: Drivers

1. Instituting Graduated Licensing for Young Drivers
2. Ensuring Drivers are Licensed and Fully Competent
3. Sustaining Proficiency in Older Drivers
4. Curbing Aggressive Driving
5. Reducing Impaired Driving
6. Keeping Drivers Alert
7. Increasing Driver Safety Awareness
8. Increasing Seat Belt Usage and Improving Airbag Effectiveness

Part 2: Special Users

9. Making Walking and Street Crossing Easier
10. Ensuring Safer Bicycle Travel

Part 3: Vehicles

11. Improving Motorcycle Safety and Increasing Motorcycle Awareness
12. Making Truck Travel Safer
13. Increasing Safety Enhancements in Vehicles

Part 4: Highways

14. Reducing Vehicle-Train Crashes
15. Keeping Vehicles on the Roadway
16. Minimizing the Consequences of Leaving the Road
17. Improving the Design and Operation of Highway Intersections
18. Reducing Head-On and Across Median Crashes
19. Designing Safer Work Zones

Part 5: Emergency Medical Services

20. Enhancing Emergency Medical Capabilities to Increase Survivability

Part 6: Management

21. Improving Information and Decision Support Systems
22. Creating More Effective Processes and Safety Management Systems



ECHS Milestones



Accomplishments

- Development of Mission & Vision Statements
- Formal Adoption of the AASHTO SHSP as NC's Working Plan
- Decisions to be data driven
- Review of NC Crash data
- Addition of ECHS Committee members
- Adoption of National goal to reduce the fatality rate in NC to 1.0 fatalities/100 MVM traveled by 2008



Accomplishments

- Prioritization of Initial Areas of Focus
 - 1 - Lane Departure Crashes
 - 2 - Ensuring Drivers are Licensed & Fully Competent
 - 3 - Curbing Aggressive Driving
 - 4 - Increasing Seat Belt Usage
 - 5 - Keeping Drivers Alert & Increasing Driver Safety Awareness
 - 6 - Speed
- Development of initial 6 Working Groups



Working Group Specifics

- Role of the Working Group
 - Level where the majority of the work will be done
 - Analyze & research the assigned topic to determine issues, solutions and countermeasures
 - How can the issue be best addressed?
 - Multi-faceted approach; may be more than one root cause
 - Will likely involve multiple issues and approaches
 - Make recommendations to the ECHS



Working Group Specifics

- Expectations of the Working Group
 - Commitment
 - Open to all possibilities/ideas
- Data Resource
 - Data will be provided by either Traffic Engineering or UNC HSRC



Working Group Specifics

- Meeting Frequency
 - Dependant upon the issues and each Working Group
 - Lots of communication by phone and e-mail
 - For complex issues, may establish sub groups or Technical Working Groups



Questions?

